

Do You Own a Plasma TV?

Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Litigation & Claims Branch

If you own an expensive item like a plasma TV, you'll certainly want to protect your investment, especially in a government-sponsored move. You should be aware of the manufacturer's recommendations when shipping and storing a sensitive plasma TV. In the Army claims system, there is a \$2,500 maximum liability limit for payment on a plasma TV lost or damaged in a household goods move.

Plasma TVs should be shipped in the original container or box. If you do not have the original container, you should pack and ship it in a container that meets the manufacturer's or carrier's specifications. Plan to discuss this issue with your Personal Property Shipment Clerk. This will assure that your Shipment Clerk will coordinate with your packer to provide the correct packing material. You will also have the opportunity to telephone your mover to ensure he provides a proper container. In addition, your Personal Property Shipment Clerk should advise you of certain factors regarding shipping and storing that the Government has no control over, which could lead to damages.

You need to be aware of these factors regarding shipping:

- Plasma TVs should be shipped and stored in an upright position.
- Some carriers will only ship plasma TVs in Air Ride Motor Vans.
- Some carriers recommend at origin that only a third party media specialist should dismount and prep plasma TVs for shipping.
- Some carriers recommend professional installation at destination using only a media specialist.
- Some carriers might not handle shipping plasma TVs due to the numerous constraints.

The following recommendations apply to storage of plasma TVs and may vary by manufacturer:

-Plasma TVs should be stored in a climate controlled storage facility or warehouse where the air temperature should not fall below 15 degrees Fahrenheit or exceed 122 degrees Fahrenheit. The humidity should not fall below 10% or exceed 90% with no condensation.

-Plasma TVs should not be stored at altitudes higher than 9,800 feet. The altitude storage constraints may vary by manufacture.

-Members expecting to store a plasma TV for long periods should be aware that the Government does not have climate controlled warehouses, and there is no authority to pay for such services at Government expense.

As the owner of a plasma TV, you might want to consider purchasing full replacement value insurance or high value insurance to cover your TV for loss or damage that could occur during a household goods move. This is an important issue to discuss with your Personal Property Shipment Clerk.

By being well informed, you will be prepared to take proper precautions to safeguard your investment in a plasma TV.

For questions regarding shipment of your plasma TV, please contact the DLI Outbound Personal Property Section at 242-5096.

Questions regarding claims should be addressed to Personnel Claims, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, at 242-6396.